



DIRECTORATE OF
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~~C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L~~

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1. A delegation from the Soviet Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry visited the facilities of Scientific Atlanta in December 1975 in response to an invitation extended by the company in June 1975 during an exhibit held in the USSR. At the time the Soviets accepted the invitation they also asked to visit the facilities of the Communications Satellite Corporation, (COMSAT), Washington, DC. Nikolay Nikolayevich Nesvit, a department chief in the ministry, headed the delegation that included Gennadiy Goncharov, and Yuri Matveyev. As Nesvit described it, the purpose of the visit was to study the technical parameters of the MARISAT system in order to compare these with the technical specifications of the INMARSAT system to be written during 1976. Should the two systems prove to be fundamentally compatible, the Soviets would consider joining MARISAT until such time as INMARSAT becomes operational. Nesvit made it clear that his ministry was not the one to make the decision to join the MARISAT system.
2. Nesvit maintained that the Soviets intend to support a move to establish a standing interim organizational body at the Second International Conference on the Establishment of an International Maritime Communications System in February 1976. This body would be responsible for initiating some of the organizational and technical groundwork prior to the signing of the final agreements in order to shorten the time required for INMARSAT to become operational. One of the tasks of this body will be to write the technical specifications for the INMARSAT system. Nesvit emphasized that the Soviets were most interested in seeing a final agreement reached on INMARSAT, and that they did not wish to take any action that would jeopardize the agreement.

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